

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-5 (CANCELED)

6. (WITHDRAWN) A method of preparing an antibacterial member, wherein a solution in which a propolis component is extracted is formed by dissolving a water-insoluble propolis material in alcohol, acetone or ether, a water-insoluble base member is immersed in said formed propolis-extracted solution, and said immersed base member is taken out from the propolis-extracted solution to be dried.

7. (WITHDRAWN) A method of preparing an antibacterial member according to claim 6, said water-insoluble propolis material is applied with a pressure after taken out from the propolis-extracted solution.

8. (WITHDRAWN) A method of preparing an antibacterial member according to claim 6, wherein said base member is ceramics or an ore.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An antibacterial filter for filtrating water, comprising: a water introduction unit introducing water therein; a water purifier unit purifying the water introduced through said water introduction unit; and a water discharge unit discharging the water purified by said water purifier unit,

~~wherein a flow passage switching valve switching a flow passage depending on whether or not the water is to be purified is disposed between said water introduction unit and said water purifier unit, said water purifier unit contains therein plural kinds of filter members formed in layers in a water flow direction in said water purifier unit, a cylindrical cartridge of a shape of a doughnut in cross section is arranged inside of a container of a cylindrical shape, and a center pipe is arranged along the center axis of said water purifier unit so as to communicate with an opening formed in an inner wall surface at a lower portion of said cartridge, plural kinds of filter members are formed in layers in a water flow direction inside of said cartridge, and any one or more of said plural layers is mixed with an antibacterial member constituted such that a propolis component is contained in, or adhered to, a water-insoluble base member.~~

10. (ORIGINAL) An antibacterial filter according to claim 9,

wherein said base member is ceramics or an ore.

Claims 11 and 12 (CANCELED)

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An antibacterial filter for filtrating water, comprising: a water introduction unit introducing water therein; a water purifier unit purifying the water introduced through said water introduction unit; and a water discharge unit discharging the water purified by said water purifier unit,

wherein in said water purifier unit, a cylindrical cartridge of a shape of a doughnut in cross section is arranged inside of a container of a cylindrical shape, and a center pipe is arranged along the center axis of said water purifier unit so as to

AMENDMENT AND REPLY AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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communicate with an opening formed in an inner wall surface at a lower portion of said cartridge, and a member constituting a flow passage of from said water introduction unit to said water purifying unit is formed of an antibacterial member constituted such that a propolis component is contained in, or adhered to, a water-insoluble base member.

14. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) An antibacterial filter according to claim 13,
wherein said base member is ceramics or an ore.

Claims 15 - 20 (CANCELED)

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